

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /074 W
-----191141Z 116126 /20

R 181644Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE 6057
INFO USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
SECDEF WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PARM
SUBJECT: GENEVA CONFERENCE OF THE LAWS OF WAR AND CONVENTIONAL
WEAPONS QUESTIONS

1. WEO GROUP AGREED TO REPLACEMENT OF DUTCH PROFESSOR KARLSHOVAN BY
UK DEPUTY CCD REPRESENTATIVE, JOHN TAYLOR, AS REPORTEUR OF THE
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE DELAING WITH PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS
ON THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. DECISION WAS TEKEN AT
OUTSET OF WEOG MEETING ON MARCH 15. SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVE, HANS
BLIX, WHO, AS USUAL, ARRIVED ONLY DURING THE SECOND DAY OF
CONSULTATIONS, WAS CHAGRINED BY THIS DEVELOPMENT AND IMMEDIATELY
SUGGESTED THAT SOMEONE OTHER THAT THE RAPPORTEUR SHOULD CHAIR THE
NEW WORKING GROUP OF THAT COMMITTEE. THIS QUESTION WILL HAVE TO
BE DECIDED BY THE COMMITTEE IN APRIL.

2. BLIX WAS ALSO ANNOYED BY US SUGGESTION THAT WEAPONS COMMITTEE
SHOULD CONVENE ONLY WHEN THE THIRD COMMITTEE (WHICH HAS IN MANY
CASES THE SAME REPRESENTATIVES) FINISHES ITS WORK. DECISION ON
MEETING SCHEDULE WAS ALSO LEFT TO APRIL AND IS TO BE WORKED OUT
BETWEEN THE CHAIRMEN OF THE TWO COMMITTEES. NEW COLOMBIAN
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REPRESENTATIVE, CHARRY SAMPER, HAS BEEN NAMED CHAIRMEN OF THE
WEAPONS COMMITTEE.

3. US REPRESENTATIVE, ALDRICH, DISCUSSED WEAPONS QUESTIONS
PRIVATELY WITH BLIX AT SOME LENGTH. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT SWEDED
ARE PREPARED TOACCEPT STATEMENT OF AREAS OF AGREEEMENT AND OF
DISAGREEMENT AS BEST OBTAINABLE FINAL PRODUCT OF WEAPONS

COMMITTEE BUT THAT SOME OTHERS, E.G, ALGERIA, MEXICO AND
YUGOSLAVIA, WILL PRESS HARD FOR DRAFT TREATIES AT THIS FINAL
CONFERENCE SESSION . BLIX SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE REDICALS
MIGHT BE DISSUADED FROM PRESSING FOR VOTES ON PROPOSALS IF THEY
COULD HAVE SOME ASSURANCE THAT THE MAJOR POWERS WOULD BE PREPARED
TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN WHATEVER NEGOTIATION OF FINAL AT TIMES
TEXTS MIGHT BE DECIDED UPON TO FOLLOW THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION.
ALDRICH EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT USG WULD NOT REFUSE TO
PARTICIPATE IN NEGOTIATIONS IN A REASONABLE FORUM BUT THAT WE
COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE UNKNOWN.
ALDRICH ALSO POINTED OUT THAT ANY MOVE
BY RADICALS TO PRESS THESE ISSUES TO A
VOTE BEFORE THEY WERE RIPE FOR DECISION WOULD BE A SURE WAY TO
DISCREDIT AND END THE WHOLE EFFORT.SORENSEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISARMAMENT, LAW OF WAR, CONVENTIONAL WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA02093
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770094-1058
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770347/aaaabnzy.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 490eeeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3069446
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENEVA CONFERENCE OF THE LAWS OF WAR AND CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS QUESTIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PARM, OCON, US, SZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/490eeeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009